

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10 AGR-05

AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OFA-01 L-03 OES-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CEQ-01 INT-05 SMI-01 DODE-00

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R 261530Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5978

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 3115

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, EFIS, IT

SUBJ: FAO ASSISTANCE TO INDONESIAN WHALING

FODAG

REF: STATE 4163

1. BOEREMA OF FAO FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SAYS FAO EXPERTS HAVE FOR ABOUT FIVE YEARS BEEN PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, UNDER FREEDOM FROM HUNGER PROJECT AND IN RESPONSE TO INDONESIAN REQUEST, TO ABORIGINAL WHALING ON LOMBLEN ISLAND, WHERE POPULATION HAS TRADITIONALLY DEPENDED UPON LOCAL WHALING TO MEET PROTEIN AND HEATING NEEDS. ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN DESIGNED MERELY TO ENABLE ISLANDERS TO MEET THEIR LOCAL NEEDS IN SOMEWHAT MORE MODERN AND LESS DANGEROUS AND CRUEL FASHION THAN WITH TRADITIONAL CANOES AND SPEARS. NUMBER OF WHALES TAKEN ANNUALLY REMAINS IN TWENTIES, ALMOST ALL SPERM, AND SOME DOLPHINS ALSO HAVE BEEN TAKEN. FAO EXPERTS ARE ALSO ASSISTING IN FISHING, WHICH COULD LARGELY REPLACE WHALING.

2. BOEREMA BELIEVES MATTER HAS NOT BEEN BROUGHT BEFORE INTER-
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NATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION OF WHICH INDONESIA IS NOT MEMBER.

IWC HAS GIVEN EXCEPTION IN LIKE CASE TO ABORIGINAL TAKING OF WHALES BY ESKIMOS IN ALASKA, WHICH IS OF BOWHEAD WHALES, MORE STRICTLY CONTROLLED THAN SPERM WHALES. SOME SPERM WHALES TAKEN BY LOMBLEN ISLANDERS ARE BELOW SIZE SET BY IWC LIMITATIONS, BUT BOEREMA IS INCLINED TO BELIEVE IWC WOULD NOT TAKE ISSUE WITH LOMBLEN ISLAND ABORIGINAL WHALING.VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Concepts: WHALING, LOMBLEN ISLAND, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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